



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

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الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria



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ACTION GROUP FOR PALESTINIANS OF SYRIA



مركز العودة الفلسطيني
PALESTINIAN RETURN CENTRE

"AGPS, PRC Send Letter to Thai Ambassador in Britain over Fate of Stranded Palestinian Refugees in Thailand"

- Thai Authorities Pledge Release of Detained Palestinian Refugees
- 3 Palestinian Brothers Held in Syrian Gov't Jail for 6th Year
- Child Activities Held in Yarmouk Camp

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Latest Developments

The London-based Action Group for Palestinians of Syria (AGPS) and the Palestinian Return Centre (PRC) dispatched a memorandum to the Ambassador of Thailand in Britain, Pisanu Suvanajata, warning of the dire conditions endured by Palestinian refugees in Thailand.

Citing reports from Thailand, the letter said the Thai authorities have been treating Palestinian refugees as lawbreakers rather than asylum-seekers fleeing such war-torn zones as Syria.

The memo referred to an affidavit released by a Palestinian refugee from Syria who had been detained in Bangkok, along with 100 refugees, among them women, children, and elderly persons, for overstaying their visas.



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AGPS and PRC expressed deep concern over the fate of around 600 Palestinian refugees in Thailand, where they have become at the risk of refoulement and arbitrary detention.



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They further warned of the tragic upshots of the simmering crackdowns perpetrated by the Thai authorities against stranded refugees who are neither able to safely access their homeland nor allowed to take shelter in other countries.

AGPS and PRC urged the international community and Palestinian institutions to take immediate action, rally round stranded refugees who have been left on their own in Bangkok, and ensure they are fairly treated.

AGPS and PRC also appealed for convening a meeting with the Thai Ambassador in Britain to discuss latest developments and efforts by the embassy in this regard.

At the same time, a PRC delegation is slated to meet with the Thai envoy sometime next week at the UN headquarters in New York, where a seminar is expected to be held by PRC on November 7 to tackle the future of Palestinian refugees in the Middle East.

Over 600 Palestinian refugees, including 50 from Syria, have sought shelter in Thailand, where they have been considered as outlaws rather than humanitarian cases.

Meanwhile, Palestine Ambassador in Malaysia, Walid Abu Ali, also non-resident Ambassador to Thailand, said he has received promises by the Thai authorities to release Palestinian refugees detained in Thailand.

Abu Ali said he had met with the Thai Ambassador in Malaysia after he had been tasked by the Palestinian Authority President to keep tabs on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Thailand.



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A memorandum was handed over by Palestine Ambassador to the Ambassador of Thailand. The document denounced the abduction sweeps launched against the refugees.

He added that the Thai government has been chasing down all refugees seeking shelter in its territories, regardless of their origins.

According to Abu Ali, the list of detainees includes four women, seven children, and a number of men. They are expected to be released next Monday.



Voice recordings recently released by activists have provided tangible evidence about the tragic conditions endured by Palestinian and Syrian refugees stranded in Thailand and held at I.D.C detention center in Bangkok for overstaying their visas.

As emerges in the soundtracks, children, women, and elderly refugees are crammed in over-crowded detention centers, where they are made to sit and sleep in a squatting position, with their legs drawn up closely beneath or in front of their vulnerable bodies.



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In the meantime, three Palestinian brothers have been secretly locked up in Syrian government jails for the 6th year running. Two of them turned themselves in to the Syrian authorities after the pro-government Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)--General Command (GC) pledged to work out their situation.

Samir Barnawi, born in 1975, was arrested on September 20, 2012, after PFLP-GC turned him in to the government forces. He had served as the commander of an opposition squad in AlTadhamun area, adjacent to Yarmouk Camp. Fadi Barnawi, born in 1976, was arrested on the same day. Their brother Shadi, born in 1981, was kidnapped from Yarmouk Camp in October 2012.

Several Palestinian relatives and members of the same family have been enduring mysterious fates in Syrian government dungeons, where others have also been tortured to death. Three brothers from the Hamdan family, taking shelter in Yarmouk Camp, and three sisters from Saad AlDeen family, from AlRaml Camp, were killed under torture in Syrian state prisons.

AGPS documented the imprisonment of 1,709 Palestinian refugees in Syrian government dungeons, where 558 others have also been fatally tortured.

In another development, volunteers from the Palestinian Red Crescent organized leisure activities for 35 children in the embattled Yarmouk Camp for Palestinian refugees, in the first such move during Syria's eight-year warfare, which has inflicted severe trauma on children sheltered in the camp.



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40 Palestinian families have remained in Yarmouk Camp, where they have been enduring calamitous humanitarian conditions as a result of the water and power blackouts along with the absence of humanitarian aid and basic services.

Dozens of Palestinian activists and relief officers have been pronounced dead in Yarmouk Camp as a result of heavy shelling, extrajudicial execution, or fatal torture in jail.

Most of Palestinian families taking shelter south of Damascus fled Yarmouk as a result of the tough blockade imposed by the government troops and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – General Command and also after ISIS grabbed hold of the camp on April 1, 2015. Scores of other stranded families fled the camp following the 33-day military operation launched by the government forces on April 19.

